

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : W. C. Sullivan

DATE: June 22, 1964

FROM : W. A. Branigan

1 - Belmont
1 - Mohr
1 - DeLoach
1 - Sullivan

1 - Malley
1 - Branigan
1 - Lenihan
1 - Goble

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Edward E. Smith addressed the Palo Alto (California) Chapter, Society of Former Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Incorporated, on 4-2-64 about the Oswald case as reported in the organization's publication "The Grapevine," May, 1964, issue, page 33. Smith alleged that Oswald was a Soviet agent who was unable to be properly controlled by his Soviet masters. It was reported in the article that Smith was writing a book setting forth this thesis.

This man was Assistant Military Attache in the American Embassy in Moscow from 1948 to 1950. From 1954 to 1956 he was Department of State Security Officer. He was compromised by the Soviets as a result of his illicit relations with his Russian maid during 1954 and 1955, however, he reported the Soviet recruitment attempt. Investigation indicated no evidence of any compromise of information, but Smith lost his position with the Department of State as a result of this. In April, 1964, we received information that Smith was active in behalf of Senator Goldwater's Presidential campaign. He has also worked as a free-lance writer. He has been contacted by the Bureau in the past and has been cooperative.

RECOMMENDATION:

San Francisco should interview Smith regarding his allegation about Oswald and determine if he has any evidence about the Oswald case. If you approve, the attached airtel will be transmitted with these instructions.

105-82555

Enclosure

105-82555-23-64

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